

THE OREGON MIST.

VOL. XXII.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1905.

NO. 21.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Japan again complains that France favors Russia.

Japan is seeking to strengthen the British alliance.

No lottery will be allowed to operate in the canal zone.

May 1 was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the prohibitory law in Kansas.

Another Japanese loan has been floated. The bonds were taken eagerly at a premium.

British papers insist that the guns on a large percentage of the war vessels are worthless.

The president will go to the bottom of the scandal involving Assistant Secretary of State Loomis.

Fire did \$100,000 damage to the Household Sewing Machine company plant at Providence, R. I.

The New York police are taking a census of Chinese in connection with their crusade on Chinese vice.

The present week is expected to see nearly 50,000 laborers of different trades go on strike in New York.

President Roosevelt will confer with cabinet officers at Chicago on the Far Eastern war and the Chicago strike.

The Russian fleet is off the coast of Indo-China. Togo's whereabouts is absolutely unknown to any but the Japanese government.

Many strikers are being killed in Poland by troops.

A Santa Clara, California, aeroplane has made a very successful flight.

The treasurer of Athens county, Ohio, is \$71,000 short in his accounts.

The president has had a slight attack of malaria and rested in camp for a day.

Padewski is suffering from nervous prostration and has cancelled his Boston dates.

Government rate regulation is declared by railroad men to be injurious to the West.

The Interstate Commerce commission has ruled 18 railroads for discrimination in local rates.

The epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis in New York has abated with the coming of warm weather.

Twelve leaders of the Chicago strike have been arrested. Riots and other disturbances continue. One death has been reported.

Minister Bowen, of Panama, who has been called home in regard to the charges against Loomis, will be given the choice of proving his assertions and receiving promotion or failing and being discharged from government service.

Great Britain will build the world's greatest battleship.

Linievitch condemns Karpatkin's retreat from Mukden.

The Russian fleet is seeking to elude Togo and reach Vladivostok.

Russia is now planning a canal to connect the Baltic and Black seas.

Minister Bowen has been ordered home to explain the Loomis charges.

The New York police have forbidden slumming parties to visit Chinatown in automobiles.

The Russian government has lost control of the Caucasus and lawlessness is supreme.

Fire is still raging in the Picton mine of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company and it will have to be flooded.

Poland peasants have served notice on the authorities that they intend to seize the land and divide it among themselves.

The state portage railway commission says the portage road between The Dalles and Celilo will be ready for business May 15.

Fitzhugh Lee, veteran of the Confederate army, and of the Spanish war, is dead. The end came very suddenly, he being stricken by apoplexy.

Japan awaits a naval battle in confidence.

Carnegie has given \$10,000,000 to pension retired professors.

A witness has testified in the Nan Patterson trial that Young shot him self.

John Barrett is to be minister to Colombia when his Panama office is abolished.

Russia will let contracts to all ship-building yards in America for the construction of warships.

All Russia is in a panic as a result of threats of dynamite to begin operations at Easter.

Frank Bigelow, the defaulting president of the Milwaukee bank, is behind in his accounts \$3,277,000.

Rojestvensky will be joined by Nebogatoff May 5. The Russian fleet is using Hainan island as a base while waiting.

TWELVE MINERS BURIED.

Big Explosion Wrecks Shaft of an Oklahoma Coal Company.

Wilburton, Okla., May 2.—Thirteen miners were entombed and probably killed by an explosion early today in the Missouri, Kansas & Texas coal company's mine No. 19 four miles west of here. There is little prospect of their bodies being recovered for several days.

The men went into the shaft at midnight. Foreman William Ray, of the shift that left the mine at that hour, states that the mine was in good condition and a gas explosion was hardly probable. His shift left a shot hanging which the new shift may have fired.

It is suggested, from the force of the explosion, which could be heard for miles around, and which tore heavy timbers aside and piled tons of dirt into the shaft, that a bad shot had set off some dynamite which had been stored conveniently for use in pushing the work. The shaft is 360 feet deep, and it was 300 feet to the place where the men were working.

The men were supplied with air from the shaft, and by means of compressed air tubes. It is the general opinion that the air pipe was burst by the explosion, but air has been steadily pumped in all day, with the remote hope that some of the entombed men may have escaped the force of the explosion and the after-damp.

MEETING AT VENICE.

Italian and Austro-Hungarian Ministers Agree on Attitude.

Rome, May 2.—While it is officially stated that the purpose of Count Goluchowski in going to Venice was mainly to return the visit which Foreign Minister Tittoni made at Abbazia in 1904, there is high authority for the statement that the two foreign ministers were moved by the desire to strengthen the triple alliance by cementing the friendship of Austria-Hungary and Italy and that they agreed on a common attitude for safeguarding the reciprocal interests of the two countries in the Adriatic, Mediterranean and Balkan states.

The Cretan question was discussed and it was agreed that it is necessary for the present to moderate the impatience of the Cretans, who are desirous of union with Greece. The ministers reached an accord on Macedonia, deciding to acquit the proposal of Great Britain for European control of Macedonia finances, while application of reforms will remain entrusted to Austria and Russia, supported by an internal gendarmerie under command of an Italian general.

The control of Macedonian finances will be exercised by a body composed of the present Austrian and Russian civil agents in Macedonia, with the addition of special delegates from other powers. Both Austria and Italy will endeavor to avoid complications in Morocco, both being allied with Germany and friendly to France and Great Britain.

FETES FOR RUSSIAN ARMY.

Easter is Celebrated With Religious Services on the Field.

Gushki Pass, May 2.—The Russian army here celebrated its second Easter in the field with the traditional religious services and observances. Special Easter fetes were prepared for the soldiers, giving them a respite from their usual duties wherever possible.

Information obtained from prisoners and captured mails shows that the disposition of the Japanese army is as follows: General Nodzu, the region between Tie Pass and Kaiyuan; General Oka, from Tie Pass westward of the railway; General Kuroki, from Tie Pass eastward of the railway; General Nogi, from Fakoman to Changtufu; General Kawamura, northwest of Mukden.

The weakest forces of the Japanese are in the region about Mukden, while the principal concentration is in the region of Tie Pass. The flanks are guarded by mixed bands of Japanese and Chinese bandits.

Texas Rivers are Swollen.

Houston, Tex., May 2.—Every river in the state is swollen almost bank full in the lower reaches, with more water coming down. Grave fears are expressed that within the next 48 hours the Brazos, the Colorado, the Guadalupe and the Trinity rivers will go out of their banks with disastrous results if there be any more rain. The smaller rivers and creeks tributary to the rivers are also out over the lower bottom lands now, and as the water cannot be discharged, there is already a considerable loss to the farmers.

Take Water from Canada.

Ottawa, May 2.—If the rumor is true that the United States government has authorized the construction of certain canals on Milk river, which runs from Montana into the Northwest and then back into United States territory, will be to effect of which construction will be to divert the water from Canadian territory, a strong protest will be made by the Dominion, which favored sending this matter to the International Waterway commission.

Rio Grande Breaks Out.

El Paso, Tex., May 2.—The Rio Grande river broke over its banks today, 30 miles above El Paso, and overflowed 2,000 acres of alfalfa and other rich lands, ruining crops and carrying away many small houses. The town of Berino is entirely abandoned.

CONDITIONS WORSE

Chicago Strike Breakers Carry Rifles and Use Them.

POLICE ARE UNABLE TO PREVENT

Rioting in Street Grows More Vicious and Many Participants are Badly Injured.

Chicago, May 2.—Conditions in the teamsters' strike were worse today than at any preceding time. The strikers were in a more ugly mood, the rioting was more open and vicious and the attacks on nonunion men were more frequent and daring than at any time since the commencement of the trouble. The chief cause for the increased belligerency on the part of the strikers and their friends is the fact that the Employers' Teaming association today brought 1,500 men into the city to take their places and 500 more are said to be on the way and will arrive within 12 hours. These men will receive the full pay of union men and it has been guaranteed to them that their positions will be permanent. Among them are 200 farmer boys from the surrounding states who have volunteered their services and sought positions as drivers.

Tomorrow Winchester rifles will be carried on all wagons of the Employers' Teaming association in open view. A number of nonunion men have been arrested on the charge of carrying concealed weapons and today the attorneys for the Employers' Teaming association called upon Chief of Police O'Neil and asked him if they men had not the right to carry weapons provided they were held in open view and were not concealed. Chief O'Neil replied that there was no law against it and arrangements were promptly made by the employers to place Winchester rifles on every one of the wagons.

CLEARING THE WAY.

Government Buys Two Private Irrigation Canals on Klamath.

Washington, May 2.—The secretary of the Interior has approved, provisionally, the purchase of the Adams ditch and the Ankeny canal, in the vicinity of Klamath Falls, both of which are to be used in connection with the Klamath irrigation project in Oregon. The government had previously secured options on these irrigation systems, and the action of the secretary provides for their purchase as soon as the final plans of the engineers for the construction of the large project have been accepted. The government will pay \$100,000 for the Adams canal and \$50,000 for the Ankeny.

The secretary has also approved, subject to future determination, to construct the project, the purchase of 15,000 acres of land belonging to the J. D. Carr Land & Livestock company, at Clear Lake, California. The purchase price is \$187,500, and includes the riparian rights of the company in the Clear lake reservoir site and along the Tule lake, besides canals now constructed on the lands of the company.

SCENE OF CARNAGE.

Warsaw Troops Shoot Down Nearly One Hundred Persons.

Warsaw, May 2.—Nearly 100 persons were killed or wounded in disturbances in various quarters of Warsaw yesterday. The troops, apparently, were uncontrollable and violated all orders to act with moderation. They fired into the crowd of demonstrators, and workmen in desperation resorted to the use of firearms and bombs. Many children and women are among the dead and dying.

What approaches a reign of terror exists today; the city presents a most gloomy aspect, and the temper of the entire community augurs ill. The presence of numerous patrols of Cossack cavalry and infantry is the only reminder of lurking danger.

To Mark the Boundary Line.

Victoria, B. C., May 2.—The Canadian boundary survey party, which is to delineate the boundary as stated in the Alaskan boundary award, will leave for the north on Thursday, landing at the head of navigation on Portland canal and working thence north-east and north, following the line. A series of monuments will be built. On mountain peaks monuments 30 inches high will be built of aluminum bronze drilled into the solid rock. At river crossings and in valleys larger monuments will be built.

Army of Immigrants.

New York, May 2.—On 22 steamships due to arrive at this port this week from Great Britain and the Continent is the highest number of immigrants ever scheduled to enter during such a period of time. The border reaches nearly 25,000. At Ellis island arrangements have been made for their prompt handling, because the detention of any part would at once tax the facilities of the emigration station far beyond its limits.

Unknown Gives University \$500,000.

New York, May 2.—An anonymous donor has given \$500,000 to Columbia university for erecting and equipping a college hall for undergraduates to be named in honor of Alexander Hamilton, of the class of 1777.

RUINED BY TORNADO.

Almost Every Building in Laredo, Texas, is Gone.

Laredo, Tex., May 1.—At least 21 persons were killed and a score injured in Laredo and New Laredo by a tornado that tore through the city late last night. Sixteen were killed here. Rumors of many others killed in places outside of Laredo are heard, but as yet they lack confirmation. Property damage is large. Four of the dead were members of one family and were working on the ranch of George Woodman. They were all crushed to death by the falling in of the heavy walls of the adobe house they occupied. The others met their fate in a like manner.

The damage wrought at the Laredo group of buildings that go to make up the institution escaped damage. The escape from death of the teachers at present quartered in the institution is considered miraculous, as the walls of some of the buildings that they occupied were demolished. Mrs. Early, one of the teachers, was heroically rescued by several young cadets, students of the institution, they lowering her by a rope from a second story window. She was badly bruised.

The Mexican National hospital building roof was lifted, and it will require much time to repair the building.

A trip through the town fails to show a locality that has not suffered from the storm. Telegraph and telephone poles, corrugated roofs, chimneys and walls; in fact, debris of all imaginable kinds strewn the streets. The city authorities are at work clearing away the wreckage of the storm and tonight the city began to assume its customary tranquil appearance. Linemen are at work endeavoring to straighten out the tangled wires, and it is believed that within two days the electric light service can be resumed. It is hoped to re-establish telegraphic communication at least partially within two days.

NEW SYSTEM OF BIDDING.

Army Quartermaster Makes Welcome Change for Forage Dealers.

Washington, May 1.—It will be welcome news to Pacific coast dealers to know that the quartermaster general of the army has decided to obtain bids for forage for army purposes under a new system, which shall permit competition on a three-months as an annual basis. It is believed that more satisfactory bidding will be obtained, if it is possible to secure proposals for furnishing forage for a period of three months. This will enable closer competition, hence it will afford bidders an opportunity to estimate more closely as to market conditions.

In presenting bids for the annual supply of forage at all the military posts, it is found that bidders are required to specify largely as to the probable condition of crops, and this, of course, must have its effect upon prices named for a yearly supply of army forage. Bidding will, therefore, be permitted for a quarterly as well as for an annual supply.

COLTON IN FULL CHARGE.

Names Assistants in Collection of Dominican Customs.

Washington, May 1.—Colonel George R. Colton, the American official who went to Santo Domingo to assume charge of the collection of customs revenue of that republic, has reported to Secretary Taft that a plan of organization for the customs service had been agreed upon by the Dominican government.

Colonel Colton has been made principal collector and general receiver; J. H. Edwards, Jr., deputy collector; traveling inspector and auditor; H. W. Smith, cashier, auditor and disbursing officer; H. F. Worley, additional deputy collector in charge of the Haytian frontier; M. D. Carroll, chief statistician, and Joseph Schwartz, special agent.

All of the Dominican officials now in the service have been continued by Colonel Colton, who has definitely assumed charge of the custom house. He has posted notices to this effect for the information of foreigners and others.

Dredger Brings Up Nuggets.

Marysville, Cal., May 1.—Rich specimens of free gold have been brought up by the new levee dredger now operating in the Feather river at Yuba City. Nuggets of considerable size and value and pieces of quartz studded with gold have been picked up from several bucketsful of sand and gravel deposited by the dredger. Dredge mining men are watching the work with interest. There is every indication that another rich dredge mining field has been discovered and that there will be much activity about Marysville.

No More Delays for Connors.

Chicago, May 1.—The case of Superintendent Thomas J. Connors, of the Armour company, indicted on the charge of attempting to intimidate a witness, came up again today in the United States district court. Counsel for the Armour company asked for another continuance. After some argument, Judge Landis granted it, setting the date for hearing next Thursday. The judge also said forcibly that he would not grant another continuance.

Cloudbursts Unroof Buildings.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 1.—Reports from that state show that Indiana has been storm swept in the past 24 hours. Cloudbursts are reported at many places. At Bicknellville buildings were unroofed, and near Peru the Indianapolis Northern interurban track was washed away. Hail fell in several counties, damaging crops.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

YAMHILL CROPS DOING WELL.

Prospects are that Cereal Yield Will Be the Best in Years.

McMinnville—Yamhill county has not had a better promise of a good yield in cereals for years than it has the present season. Crops generally are thrifty, and of the finest color. Owing to the weather and crop conditions last spring, the farmers seeded a larger acreage than usual last fall. The fall sowing was mostly wheat, and this is advancing rapidly. Oats also look well, and there is no sign of blight.

The spring sowing is practically finished and the earlier spring grain is up and growing well. Farmers generally have made a larger sowing of spring oats than usual. There is a growing tendency in this county to make the spring crop consist chiefly of oats.

Hop conditions, while good, cannot be called excellent. The growth has been extremely uneven, some vines having grown rapidly, and are already trellised, while others have not advanced far. Otherwise, the crop looks well and has not been harmed by frost. In a few yards the leaves have been slightly nipped, but practically no harm done to the hops. As far as can be ascertained, every yard in the county is being cultivated, and a fair crop is anticipated. Hopmen are not discouraged by the uneven growth, and are laying the yards thoroughly hoed and the more advanced hops twined.

Apples and other fruit, except prunes and cherries, will yield abundantly. The cherry crop will be very light in all parts of the county, owing to the late frosts. The prune crop will also be less than normal. The prospects were exceptionally good until visited by the recent frost. Near Dayton and sections along the Willamette river there will not be over a third of the usual yield, while on the prairie about half a crop is expected. In the more protected sections there may be three-fourths of a crop, but in no parts will it be up to the normal output.

Berries on the Reservation.

Adams—John Pierce, a quarter-breed allottee, who resides two miles south of here, has demonstrated that the Umatilla reservation land is capable of raising more than wheat, although it is not irrigated. Last year he set out less than one half an acre of Hood River strawberries, and although the plants were less than a year old, they bore berries from June until November, the heaviest crop being in June and October. This year he has set out more plants, having now almost one acre. All are in bloom and Mr. Pierce expects to have ripe berries in two weeks if the weather is favorable.

Rogue River Craft.

Grants Pass—The first boat, other than a canoe or skiff, to navigate the Upper Rogue will be one now completed and ready for launching here. The craft is a light draft, staunch affair, and was built by John C. Lucas, a local merchant, for pleasure purposes. It is 30-foot length, with six-foot beam, and will be propelled by a powerful gasoline engine. Its builder is confident it will successfully make the rapids of the Rogue, both below and above Grants Pass. The power dams will be mounted by skidways.

One Fare to Albany.

Albany—Efforts of the Albany Commercial club to secure special rates from Portland to Albany during the Lewis and Clark exposition have proved successful. A committee was appointed some time ago to confer with the officials of the Southern Pacific railroad in Oregon, and as a result of the work of this committee the traffic men have granted a rate of one fare for the round trip for all who hold transportation from Eastern points, tickets good to remain in Linn county for 15 days.

Lost Mail Pouch Found.

Woodburn—The registered mail pouch lost at this point, the disappearance of which has constituted a great mystery, has been found by little boys as they were after a ball under the Southern Pacific freight station. The thief had unlocked the letter sack, extracted the registered pouch and returned the sack. He got the contents of several packages, \$240 that had been placed there as a remittance from this office to Washington.

Hood River to Get the Mill.

Eugene—The present owners of the woolen mill here, Messrs. Wright and Wilbur, of Union, have no intention of putting the mill into operation, as was reported at the time they made the purchase last winter from the receiver. Instead, it is now learned, the mill will be moved to Hood River, where the citizens are to take stock in the concern to the amount of \$20,000.

Valley Wool Pool Sold.

Dallas—The Polk County Woolgrowers' association sold its pool of 100,000 pounds in Dallas for 25½ cents a pound. H. L. Fenton, of Dallas, was the buyer. May 13 both the mohair and wool associations will meet in Dallas to elect officers and transact other general business of the associations.

Land Sale Near Union.

Union—The Dwight ranch of 160 acres, well improved, 4½ miles from Union, on Catherine creek, was sold last week to Faulk Brothers, of Davenport, Wash., for \$6,000. Acre property in this section is showing a livelier tendency, and numerous sales are reported.

ALBANY BIDS FOR MILL.

Citizens Agree to Put Up Money to Aid in Rebuilding.

Albany—A meeting of Albany's citizens was held last week to consider the question of taking some step to secure the rebuilding of the woolen mill of the Bannockburn Woolen Mills company in Albany. This is a mill that was burned about a month ago, entailing a loss of \$75,000.

Among those who addressed the meeting were: J. K. Weatherford, Fred Dawson, P. H. Goodwin, E. W. Langdon, F. J. Miller and Mayor W. H. Davis. All favored purchase of stock by Albany citizens, and several volunteered to take blocks ranging in value from \$250 to \$1,000. A committee was appointed to take charge of the work, ascertain how much money Albany people will put up to assist in rebuilding the mill, what kind of a proposition the Bannockburn company will entertain, if any, and report.

It seems that Albany will be able to subscribe enough stock in the Bannockburn company to rebuild the mill if that company will put in the machinery, and put the mill in working order.

Boom Spirit at Ashland.

Ashland—As a result of concerted actions of leading citizens of Ashland, working through the board of trade, a fund of approximately \$2,000 has been pledged for the promotion and publicity of the resource and attractions of this city and vicinity while the big exposition is on at Portland. Fifteen hundred dollars of this sum was subscribed at a big mass meeting of citizens held under the auspices of the board of trade, at which there was a very large attendance and much enthusiasm for the objects in view. A portion of the sum subscribed will be expended upon a permanent display at the Southern Pacific depot in this city.

Hatchery on Wallows River.

Astoria—Ferguson & Houston, of this city, have completed the plans for the proposed new salmon hatchery to be erected by the State Fisheries department on the Wallows river. The plans are for a frame structure 230 feet long and 55.4 feet wide. It will contain 336 troughs, each of which will be 16 feet in length and hold six egg baskets. The capacity of the plant will be 15,000,000 eggs each season. The appropriation for building the hatchery will be available May 15, and bids on the construction will be called for soon after that.

Excellent Crop Prospects.

Pendleton—The reservation south and east of here presents the most thrifty appearance and the prospects are for the finest wheat crop in the history of the county. South of Adams the wheat is nearly knee high and of a dark green color, which indicates the best of growing conditions. In a few instances in the same locality the fields are infested with tar weed, the pest of the reservation. The great number of these weeds is partly accounted for by the fact that only combined harvesters have been used for years.

1905 Hop Contracts Filed.

Salem—Three 1905 hop contracts, aggregating 50,000 pounds, or 280 bales have been filed for record in the department of the county recorder. They are: J. E. Forrest, of Salem, to T. Rosenwald & Co., of New York, 10,000 pounds at 18 cents; J. E. Kirkland and others, of Independence, to T. Rosenwald & Co., New York, 30,000 pounds, at 17 cents, and George H. Irwin, of Brooks, to Valentine Loew's Sons Co., of New York, 10,000 pounds, at 17 cents.

Will Not Contract.

The Dalles—The wool situation in his part of Eastern Oregon varies from practically all the other woolgrowing sections of the state from the fact that the growers have thus far declined to contract their clips in advance of the scheduled sales days, June 6 and 23 and July 6. These sales will be held as usual at Shaniko, the market place for the wools grown in Wasco, Crook, Wheeler, and Grant counties, where the choicest clips are produced.

Educational Exhibit.

Pendleton—The educational exhibit for the Lewis and Clark fair is all in the hands of the county school superintendent, and is being assembled and prepared for the exhibit. One of the fine features of the exhibit is a number of drawings. The papers to be bound after reaching Portland are classified into piles according to the work. Superintendent Welles has three assistants at the work.

PORTLAND QUOTATIONS.

Wheat—Club, 84@86c per bushel; bluestem, 89@91c; valley, 86c.
Oats—No. 1, white, 28¢ per ton; gray, 27¢.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 17@17½c per dozen.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@18c per pound.
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, 1¢@1.05; common, 80¢@85c.
Apples—Fancy, 1.75@2.50 per box; choice, 1¢@1.25.
Hops—Choice, 1904, 23½@25c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 23@25c; Eastern Oregon, best, 17½@18c; mohair, choice, 31@32½c per pound.
Hay—Timothy, 14@16 per ton; clover, 11@12; grain, 11@12; cheat, 11@12.

WILL CUT THE HUNT SHORT

President Decides to Return and Attend to Urgent Business.

Glenwood Springs, Colo., April 28.—President Roosevelt will break camp on May 8, a week earlier than he intended, and will start for Washington at once. The only stops he will make are at Denver and Chicago, where dates for his reception have been advanced to meet the new arrangement.

Secretary Loeb came from the camp early today, where he conferred with the president all of yesterday. He announced upon reaching here that affairs in Washington made it necessary that the president curtail his trip.

That there is nothing alarming in the situation is manifested from the fact that the hunt will be continued ten days more, in spite of the condition of affairs which resulted in the altered plans. The Venezuelan situation, it is believed here, resulted in the order to start home on May 8.

The party will leave Glenwood Springs at about 4 o'clock on May 8, reaching Denver the same evening. After the banquet there the party will spend the night on the train, which will leave Denver over the Union Pacific at about 7 a. m. on May 9.

There is much speculation here as to the president's reasons for advancing the time of his departure from Colorado. Mr. Loeb announces that there is no pressing business that requires the president's attention, but there are a number of things coming up about the middle of the month in which he is greatly interested. What these are the secretary would not say. It was said also that there is nothing in the Venezuelan or Dominican situations that cannot be attended to by Secretary Taft.

HER GUNS ARE A FAILURE.

British Navy in Very Poor Condition for Battle.

London, April 28.—The Daily Graphic this morning commences a series of articles calling in question the duration of the armament of a modern British fleet in a manner which, if the facts should be substantiated, is calculated to cause a great sensation. The writer alleges that 15 warships unfit for action have been discovered, as the 35-calibre 12-inch guns constituting the main armament of three vessels are incapable of firing full charges. The latest Woolwich pattern 50-calibre six-inch gun has also failed under experiment, and the question naturally arises as to the endurance of the armament of the whole modern fleet. The article states facts unfortunately beyond dispute, and points out that the present is the time for action and not for blame.

The facts came to light through developments of weakness in new long guns under experiment and the simultaneous failure of the 12-inch guns in the majestic class of battleships and through the bursting of shells in seven out of 16 British made guns on board of Japanese battleships.

The writer points out further that Great Britain is the only power that has adopted the manufacture of the wire guns.

FLOODS EAST OF ROCKIES.

Warm Weather Causes High Water but Improves Range.